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THIRTY HOURS A WEEK

The United Mine Workers of America are going to demand a 30-hour week, the working time to be divided into five days of six hours each. Along with that demand they are going to ask for a big increase in pay.

The question of pay is one deserving serious discussion by itself. Quite likely the miners need more money, just as nearly everybody else does. But as for the hours:

Suppose people in the newspaper business, including editors and reporters, should propose to issue a paper only five days in the week, and work only six hours in preparing that paper for publication.

Suppose merchants and their employees proposed keeping open only five days a week, for six hours.

Suppose policemen and firemen worked only six hours a day, five days a week.

Suppose farmers went in for the 30 hour week.

Suppose housewives, cooks and waiters followed suit.

Suppose everybody worker only 30 hours a week, with two whole idle days.

Where would society go to? Would there be enough coal iron and furniture and carpets and food and things for everybody? And if so, would there be anything left over to create a surplus, in order to give people, individ-

ually and collectively, any savings or working capital?

Would there be any replacement of the billions and billions of wealth destroyed in this war and so any improvement in the present situation? Would there be any real progress?

WHAT IS A PROFITEER?

There is a great deal of loose talk about "profiteering." It is so vague and general that many critical, logical minded people are disposed to disregard it altogether, and declare flatly that "this profiteering talk is all nonsense."

What is needed, evidently, is a satisfactory definition of the word "profiteer." So far there does not seem to be any agreement on the subject.

It will hardly do to say that anybody who is making more money than usual is a profiteer. That would take in the farmer, the doctor and the mechanic no less than the manufacturer and merchant. Nearly everybody is making more—and spending more.

The high prices hit everybody. It will hardly do, either, to judge merely by the "excess profits" on which the government has been levying a war tax. Excess profits indicate, of course, that the man or firm paying them has been making more money than before the war; but there is no scientific basis of reckoning established. Some men paying that tax are not paying as much as they ought to; others are paying too much.

In general, it probably comes to a question of proportionate profit. What percentage of profit on the monthly or yearly turnover was customary in any particular business in normal times, before the war? What percentage did a manufacturer or jobber or wholesaler or retailer expect to make on the goods he sold? And is he making any higher percentage of profit now? If a certain man or firm expected to clear 10 per cent on goods handled, say from 1910 to 1915, is that man or firm expected to clear 10 per cent on goods handled, say from 1910 to 1915, is that man or firm setting a price that gives him more than 10 per cent now? Would this not be a fair criterion, affording protection for consumers and yet leaving businessmen free to increase their incomes by increasing their volume of business?

THEY LIKE THE ARMY

As last year's big army melts away a new army is being formed. It is purely a volunteer army, of the sort familiar in this country before the war. It differs, though, in at least two respects. It is easier to get the men, and the recruits are of better quality.

This new army now numbers more

than 100,000. That figure was passed early in the present month, and Gen. March reports that additional recruits are enrolling at the rate of more than 4,000 a week. The rate of enlistment is increasing rather than decreasing.

The most remarkable thing about the personnel of this new army is the large proportion of the men who have military experience. Of these first 100,000 recruits, over 68,000, or more than two out of every three, are re-enlistments, and nearly 35,000 of them have served in France. The army authorities say that one man out of every 20 discharged since the recruiting drive began has already re-enlisted.

Evidently serving in the American army is by no means such a disagreeable occupation as some critics have represented. Conditions must be pretty tolerable to lure so many men back to the uniform, especially at a time when there is plenty of employment for them almost everywhere at good pay.

Nobody as yet seems to have advocated federal ownership of automobiles.

It is announced that the government is going to start regulating wearing apparel. Its experience with the wet goods industry ought to be useful when it comes to drygoods.

Germany is said to be copying the United States form of government.

That's complimentary—as far as it We'd rather have her copy the spirit than the mere form.

The politicians are scared half to death by the prospect of a new, radical labor party. The voters are not scared, but very much interested in the principles involved, and in the possibility of threshing them out in a clean-cut contest at the polls.

Waste not, want not! The food-stuffs allowed to rot in this country in field garden, orchard, freight car, store and home, if added to the supply actually utilized would make cheap, plentiful living for everybody.

Pershing is coming back in early September. He may arrive just in time to finish the Mexican job he started several years ago.

Mexico is playing with T. N. T.

THE FIRE FOOL

(Apologies to Rudyard Kipling)
A fool there was and he flung a match
Even as you and I,
Carelessly down on a sun-dried patch
Giving no heed that a fire might catch
And spread to the timber with quick dispatch,
Even as you and I.

The fool passed on with wondering look,
Even as you and I,
He couldn't explain the fire that took

The forest away, and dried the brook,
And left the region a place forsook.
He was a fool—that's why.
—A. G. Jackson in The Forest Ranger.

Germans Go to Mexico
MEXICO CITY, Aug. 26.—A. P.—Leopoldo Ortiz, for the past three years representative of Mexico in Germany and Austria, has returned and in an interview with El Universal declares that great preparations are under way in Germany for wholesale emigration to Latin-America.

Scott Ward Sells Home
In East Albany Scott Ward of East Albany has recently sold his little city farm of five or six acres and will vacate in a short time. Mr Ward has purchased a fine modern bungalow from Clark Price located on the Santiam road near Penrynville where he and Mrs Ward will make their home.

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THIS IS THE TIME that you begin to look for your Fall and Winter Wearing Apparel, and you also want Good Merchandise at a Reasonable Price, and we have it.

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Men's Heavy HIGHTOP SHOES	\$6.45, \$7.45, \$8.00
Boys' Heavy WORK SHOES	\$3.25, \$3.95, \$4.45, \$5.45
Men's Heavy WORK PANTS	\$2.79, \$3.45
Men's FLANNEL SHIRTS	\$1.85, \$2.50, \$3.50
Boys' Corduroy KNEE PANTS	\$1.50
Men's Wool Underwear, UNION SUITS	\$2.98, \$3.50, \$4.50
Men's Heavy Two-Piece UNDERWEAR, suit	\$3.78
Men's WOOL SOX	50c and 60c
Men's Blue Bib OVERALLS	\$1.65, \$1.69, \$1.95
Men's Heavy Khaki UNIONALLS	\$2.98, \$3.25
Girls' Gingham DRESSES	\$1.79, \$2.69, \$2.79
Girls' Heavy SCHOOL DRESSES	\$2.85, \$3.65, \$3.85

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